WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A link speed adjusting system comprising:

a network adapter to provide communication between a computing system and a network, said network adapter operable at more than one link speed;

a network device driver to control functionality of said network adapter; and

a power source to provide power to said computing system,

wherein said network device driver causes said network adapter to switch said link speed to maximize longevity of said power source.

2. The link speed adjusting system of claim 1, wherein said network device driver causes said network adapter to switch from a higher link speed to a lower link speed when said power source changes from an AC power supply to a power source of finite power capacity.

3. The link speed adjusting system of claim 2, wherein said source of finite power capacity is selected from the group consisting of a battery and an Uninterruptible Power System (UPS).

4. The link speed adjusting system of claim 1, wherein said network device driver causes said network adapter to switch from a lower link speed to a higher link speed when said power source changes from a power source of finite power capacity to an AC power source.

5. The link speed adjusting system of claim 4, wherein said source of finite power capacity is selected from the group consisting of a battery and an Uninterruptible Power System (UPS).

6. The link speed adjusting system of claim 1, wherein said power source changes from an AC power source to a source of finite power capacity and then back to said AC power source,

wherein said network device driver causes said network adapter to switch said link speed from a high speed to a low speed upon said change of said power source from said AC power source to said source of finite power capacity, and

said network device driver causes said network adapter to switch said link speed back to said high speed from said low speed upon said change of said power source from said source of finite power capacity back to said AC power source.

7. The link speed adjusting system of claim 6, wherein said source of finite power capacity is selected from the group consisting of a battery and an Uninterruptible Power System (UPS).

8. The link speed adjusting system of claim 1, wherein said network adapter is adapted to operate at link speeds of 10 Mb/s and 100 Mb/s.

9. The link speed adjusting system of claim 1, wherein said network adapter is able to operate at link speeds of 10 Mb/s, 100 Mb/s and 1,000 Mb/s.

10. A method of adapting a link speed of a network controller in a computing system to maximize longevity of a local power supply, comprising:

querying said computing system to determine if said local power supply has recently changed to a source of finite power capacity; and

lowering said link speed if said computing system has recently changed to said source of finite power capacity.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said source of finite power capacity is selected from the group consisting of a battery and an Uninterruptible Power System (UPS).

12. The method of claim 10, wherein if said computing system has not recently changed to a source of finite power capacity, said method further includes:

querying said computing system to determine if said local power supply has recently changed to an AC power source; and

raising said link speed if said computing system has recently changed to said AC power source.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein said link speed is 10 Mb/s, 100 Mb/s or 1,000 Mb/s.

14. A link speed adjusting system, comprising:

a machine-readable storage medium; and

machine-readable program code, stored on the machine-readable storage medium, the machine-readable program code having instructions to:

query a computing system to determine if a local power supply has recently changed to a source of finite power capacity; and

lower said link speed if said computing system has recently changed to said source of finite power capacity.

15. The link speed adjusting system of claim 14, wherein said machine-readable program code has further instructions to:

query said computing system to determine if said local power supply has recently changed to an AC power source; and

raise said link speed if said computing system has recently changed to said AC power source.

16. The link speed adjusting system of claim 14, wherein said source of finite power capacity is selected from the group consisting of a battery and an Uninterruptible Power System (UPS).

17. The link speed adjusting system of claim 14, wherein said link speed is 10 Mb/s, 100 Mb/s or 1,000 Mb/s.